

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/825,461

Examiner

Seth Barney

Applicant(s)

MURPHY ET AL.

Art Unit

3752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed February 14, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4,11-15,17,18 and 20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/17/06</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required in order to make an examiner's amendment which places this application in condition for allowance. During a telephone conversation conducted on March 15, 2006, Applicant's attorney, Greg O'Bradovich requested an extension of time for 2 MONTH(S). Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 15, after "the gravitational" and before "feed from", delete "particulate".

In claim 1, line 17, after "airflow" and before "and combined", delete "decoupled from the high velocity forced air flow, in the secondary tube"

In claim 17, delete the entire claim and replace with:

A broadcast spreader attachment apparatus comprising:

a main tube having a diameter, a hollow interior for supporting high velocity forced airflow and having an intake end and a discharge end;

a supply hopper

a secondary tube connected to the main tube, and protruding into the hollow interior of the main tube so that an opening in the secondary tube is disposed in the approximate center of the hollow interior of the main tube and in the path of the velocity airflow,

Art Unit: 3752

wherein the secondary tube is connected to the main tube at a point downstream of the blower and having a diameter less than the diameter of the main tube creating a diameter differential for varying a gravitational feed rate from the hopper between the main tube and the secondary tube;

a particulate flow control connected to the secondary tube and upstream from the connection point of the main tube and secondary tube for further varying a flow differential between the main tube and secondary tube for further varying a flow differential between the main tube and the secondary tube, after material is dispensed from the supply hopper for effectively reducing particulate flow through the secondary tube;

a control knob connected to the material flow control for varying the effective flow;

means for providing airflow in the main tube; and

means for creating a combined flow of the airflow and the particulate flow.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: A broadcast spreader having a supply hopper fed into a secondary tube by gravitational feed, the secondary tube being inserted into a main tube, the main tube intake end being supplied with means for providing high velocity airflow, the connection point between the secondary tube and the main tube being downstream of the velocity airflow such that there is little or no damage to the particulate is not known or rendered obvious by the prior art of record.

Art Unit: 3752

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

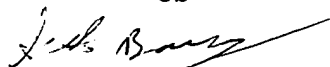
Conclusion

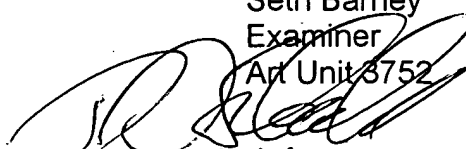
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Seth Barney whose telephone number is (571)272-4896. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm (Mon-Fri), first Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Scherbel can be reached on (571)272-4919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

sb



Seth Barney
Examiner
Art Unit 3752

David A. Scherbel
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700